

Message Text

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13/70

ACTION MCT-01

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 PA-02 USIA-15 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 NSC-05 SS-15 DHA-02 IO-13 SCSE-00 SCA-01 /072 W

----- 049361

R 291145Z AUG 76 CORRECTED COPY FOR MCN

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8862

UNCLAS TEHRAN 8728

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PDIP, PINS, IR

SUBJECT: CONDOLENCE LETTER FROM PM HOVEYDA

REF: TEHRAN 8696

1. THE AMBASSADOR HAS RECEIVED THE FOLLOWING LETTER DATED AUGUST 28 FROM PRIME MINISTER HOVEYDA EXPRESSING REGRET OVER MURDER OF THREE ROCKWELL EMPLOYEES. TEXT OF LETTER, WHICH HAS ALSO BEEN GIVEN TO LOCAL ROCKWELL REPRESENTATIVE, FOLLOWS:

2. "DEAR MR. AMBASSADOR,

"NEWS OF THE TRAGIC MURDERS OF WILLIAM COTTRELL, ROBERT KRONGARD, AND DONALD SMITH, THE THREE AMERICANS SERVING WITH THE IMPERIAL IRANIAN ARMED FORCES, HAS INDEED FILLED ME WITH DEEP HORROR AND PROFOUND SORROW.

"SUCH SENSELESS AND BRUTAL MURDERS ARE PERPETRATED BY A FEW DEPRAVED INDIVIDUALS WHO FIND THEIR EVIL INSPIRATIONS OUTSIDE IRAN, AND THEIR SINISTER MOTIVES ARE BUT ABHORRENT TO THE CONSCIENCE OF THE CIVILIZED WORLD. TERRORISM HAS INDEED NO NATIONALITY. THE IRANIAN PEOPLE JOIN ME IN CONDEMNING IN THE STRONGEST TERMS SUCH VILE CRIMES WHICH ARE COMMITTED AGAINST INNOCENT INDIVIDUALS STRIVING FOR THE BETTERMENT OF THIS COUNTRY.

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"WHILE EXPRESSING THE DEEPEST REGRET OF THE IMPERIAL
GOVERNMENT ON THESE TRAGIC INCIDENTS, AND CONVEYING
TO YOU AND THE MEMBERS OF THE FAMILITS OF THE DECEASED,
BOTH IN MY CAPACITY AS PRIME MINISTER AND AS AN
INDIVIDUAL, MY MOST HEARTFELT CONDOLENCES, I NEED
HARDLY ASSURE YOU THAT EVERYTHING POSSIBLE WILL BE
DONE TO FIND THE ASSASSINS AND BRING THEM TO JUSTICE.
YOURS SINCERELY,"
HELMS

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Concepts: MURDER, TERRORISTS, CONDOLENCE MESSAGES
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Draft Date: 29 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
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To: STATE
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